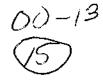


Eastern Trading Co., Inc.

P.O. BOX 3848 - GREENVILLE, S.C. 29608 - 803-233-0613



May 5, 2000

Received CFTC Records Section

COMMENT

Jean Webb Secretary Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20581 Fax (202) 418 5521

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIA ಧ

Dear Ms. Webb:

As Eastern Trading Company, we would like to offer our support for the proposed change in the rules of the New York Cotton Exchange No. 2 Contract that would disallow including cotton pledged as collateral to the Commodity Credit Corporation as part of the certificated stocks. This change is necessary in order to insure that the certificated stocks actually represent the number of bales that may or may not be tendered for delivery on the New York Cotton Exchange No. 2 Contract. Without approval of the aforementioned rule change, the existing No. 2 Contract will preclude farmers, merchants, cooperatives, and mills from an accurate price discovery mechanism.

Sincerely,

President, Eastern Trading Company

Jordan Lea

Chairman, Eastern Trading Company